

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LOUREN 00011 061637Z

44

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 FBO-02 A-01 /078 W

----- 123257

R 061300Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4189

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LOURENCO MARQUES 0011

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MZ

SUBJECT: MACHEL'S NEW YEAR'S RECEPTION FOR DIPLOMATIC CORPS

1. BEGINNING NOON SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, ALL HEADS OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS AND INTERNATIONAL (UN) ORGANIZATIONS WERE INDIVIDUALLY CALLED BY FOREIGN MINISTRY AND INVITED TO NEW YEAR'S RECEPTION AT PALACE HOSTED BY PRESIDENT MACHEL EVENING JANUARY 5.

2. SOME 25 REPRESENTATIVES (INCLUDING MYSELF) AND NUMEROUS WIVES WERE RECEIVED CORDIALLY AND OFTEN EFFUSIVELY BY PRESIDENT MACHEL AND SOMEWHAT LESS SO BY HIS WIFE WHO IS ALSO HIS EDUCATION MINISTER. THEY WERE ACCOMPANIED BY FOREIGN MINISTER CHISSANO AND SEVEN MEMBERS HIS MINISTRY NOW IN TOWN, AND SAME NUMBER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LOUREN 00011 061637Z

MEMBERS PRESIDENT'S STAFF.

3. WE WERE ASKED ARRIVE TEN MINUTES EARLY, AND MACHELS ARRIVED 45 MINUTES LATE. WITH THAT EXCEPTION, EVENT TOOK PLACE WITH ONLY MINOR HITCHES. AFTER FALSE START OR TWO, WE LINED UP ACCORDING TO PRECEDENCE-AMBASSADORIAL GROUP FOLLOWED BY CHARGE. UNITED STATES WAS AFTER ITALY BUT BEFORE EGYPT AND SWEDEN. UN GROUP BROUGHT UP REAR. EVEN MOST CYNICAL SIX-MONTH VETERANS OF DIP CORPS CONCEDED IT WAS BEST ORGANIZED AND CATERED EVENT THEY HAD ATTENDED SINCE INDEPENDENCE.

4. ZAMBIAN AMBASSADOR SIKASULA, AS ACTING DEAN OF CROPS (TANZANIAN IS IN DAR PREPARING FOR OAU MEETINGS), OPENED EVENT BY READING LONG HASTILY-CONSTRUCTED SPEECH PAYING LIP-SERVICE TO MILITANT MOZAM-BICAN RHETORIC WHICH, SURPRISINLY, WAS NOT ECHOED BY MACHEL. (AS SIKASULA APPROACHED MICROPHONE, MACHEL SAID IN AN AUDIBLE ASIDE TO HIS WIFE, "I BET THIS WILL BE IN ENGLISH."). IT WAS. AFTER SOME FOOT-TAPPING BY MACHEL (AND SOME GUESTS), ZAMBIAN DREW TO CLOSE AND PROPOSED TOAST. CEREMONY WAS THEN INTERRUPTED AS WAITERS RUSHED TO PLACE CHAMPAGNE GLASSES IN EVERYONE'S HAND.

5. MACHEL THEN STEPPED TO MICROPHONE AND READ MODERATE SPEECH IN PORTUGUESE (SEPTEL), NOTING THIS WAS FIRST EVENT OF ITS KIND IN MOZAMBIQUE. HE THEN PROPOSED ANOTHER TOAST. MACHEL WAS IN FINE HUMOR. ESPYING BRITISH AMBASSADOR AND WIFE WITH NO GLASSES IN HAND, HE ASKED THEM LOUDLY ACROSS ROOM IF THEY PREFERRED FRENCH CHAMPAGNE. BRITISH HASTILY RETRIVED THEIR TWO GLASSES. MACHEL THEN ASKED SOVIET AMBASSADOR IF CHAMPAGNE WAS AS GOOD AS IN MOSCOW. SOVIET REPLIED AFFIRMATIVELY, IGNORING IMPLICATION THAT MACHEL HAD TO ASK BECAUSE HE HAS NOT YET VISITED MOSCOW DESPITE LONG-STANDING INVITATION. CORPS THEN ALL FILED BY TO PRESENT ITS COMPLIMENTS TO PRESIDENT.

6. PARTY THEN PROCEEDED TO LARGE DINING HALL, WHERE MORE AND BETTER FOOD WAS ON DISPLAY THAN ANYONE HAS SEEN IN LOURENCO MARQUES FOR MANY MONTHS. MACHEL MADE POINT OF TALKING TO EVERYONE IN ROOM. IN BRIEF AND CORDIAL BUT INCONSEQUENTIAL CHAT WITH ME, HE ASKED WHERE I HAD LEARNED PORTUGUESE (BRAEIL), IF MANY US DIPLOMATS SPOKE LANGUAGE, WHEN AMBASSADOR WOULD BE ARRIVING, AND IF WE HAD ALL SETTLED IN NOW.

7. AS MACHEL MOVED ON, I WENT UP TO CHISSANO, WHO DISPLAYED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 LOUREN 00011 061637Z

BIG SMILE AND ASKED WHERE THE AMERICANS HAVE BEEN. I SAID DOWNTOWN BY THE DOCKS IN OUR OLD CONSULATE BUILDING. HE SAID THAT MUST BE WHY HE HASN'T SEEN US AROUND TOWN, AND WHAT WERE WE DOING ABOUT IT; I REPLIED WE WERE STILL AWAITING REPLY TO OUR NOTE OF NOVEMBER 12 REQUESTING AUTHORIZATION TO LEASE A NEW BUILDING IN A MORE ACCESSIBLE AREA. CHISSANO AND FOREIGN LISTENERS TO CONVER-SATION (WHO ALL HAVE SIMILAR PROBLEMS) SEEMED HUGELY AMUSED BY THIS REJOINDER. CHISSANO SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT

THAT. AT THIS POINT, PRESIDENT AND MRS. MACHEL LEFT, AND RECEPTION ENDED.

8. COMMENT: TAZANIAN AMBASSADOR KATIKAZA TOLD ME TWO WEEKS AGO THAT, PROMPTED BY QUERIES FROM NUMEROUS MISSIONS (INCLUDING THIS ONE)

HE HAD ASKED CHISSANO IF A NEW YEAR CEREMONY WERE PLANNED. CHISSANO SAID NO, BUT THAT IT SOUNDED LIKE A GOOD IDEA AND WOULD PUT IT TO THE PRESIDENT. AND SO GPRM LEARNED ANOTHER LESSON IN PRACTICING DIPLOMACY.
ARENALES

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SOCIAL RECEPTIONS, DIPLOMATIC PROTOCOL, DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LOUREN00011
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760003-1264
From: LOURENCO MARQUES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760181/aaaacuen.tel
Line Count: 126
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <06 MAY 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MACHEL'S NEW YEAR'S RECEPTION FOR DIPLOMATIC CORPS
TAGS: PFOR, MZ, (MACHEL, SAMORA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006